MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
BRIEFING SESSION
21 May, 1975

AM
9:00 *CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.*

ADMINISTRATION

A. Bicentennial Medal Selection, 1 May, 1975 - Report.

B. White House Swimming Pool - Report.

C. Opening and Closing of Public Alleys in Square 1190, K Street, 31st Street, & Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W., for Development of Inland Steel Project.

PROJECT BRIEFINGS

A. Smithsonian Institution

National Air and Space Museum, Proposed Sculpture for North Entrance - Resubmission.

B. General Services Administration

Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building, 17th & G Streets, N.W. - Interior Courtyard Design.

C. D.C. Government, Department of General Services

1. Old Central Library, Mount Vernon Square, 8th & K Streets, N.W., Renovation - New Basement Entrance.

2. Perry-Simmons Elementary School Replacement, 1st Street between H & I Streets, N.W. - Design.

D. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 75-159, 3242 M Street, N.W. - Demolition of Existing Two-Story Frame Structure.

2. OG 75-171, -172, 28th Street, N.W., Erection of Two New Single-Family Dwellings - Resubmission.

3. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 75-36, 4001 17th Street, N.W. - Alteration and Repair to Existing St. John the Baptist Church.

2. Appendix 2.

E. Redevelopment Land Agency

1. Glasgow-Cannon Waterfront Facility, Southwest Waterfront - Design.

2. Flagship Parking Structure, Site P-1, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission.

F. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

Sculpture by Mrs. Helaine Blumenfeld, Town Center Park, 4th & I Streets, S.W. - Design and Site Plan.

G. Council on International Economic Policy

New Proposed Emblem.

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
21 May, 1975

AM
10:15 *CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.*

ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: 25 June, 1975
16 July, 1975

B. Minutes of April, 1975 meeting.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

10:30 *A. Smithsonian Institution*

National Air and Space Museum, Proposed Sculpture for North Entrance - Resubmission.

10:45 *B. General Services Administration*

Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building, 17th & G Streets, N.W. - Interior Courtyard Design.

11:00 *C. D.C. Government, Department of General Services*

1. Old Central Library, Mount Vernon Square, 8th & K Streets, N.W., Renovation - New Basement Entrance.

2. Perry-Simmons Elementary School Replacement, 1st Street between H & I Streets, N.W. - Design.

11:15 *D. D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development*

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 75-159, 3242 M Street, N.W., Demolition of Existing Two-Story Frame Structure.

2. OG 75-171, -172, 28th Street, N.W., Erection of Two New Single-Family Dwellings - Review of Old Georgetown Board Comments.

3. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 75-36, 4001 17th Street, N.W. - Alteration and Repair to Existing St. John the Baptist Church.

2. Appendix 2.

11:30 E. Redevelopment Land Agency

1. Glasgow-Cannon Waterfront Facility, Southwest Waterfront - Design.

2. Flagship Parking Structure, Site P-1, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission.

11:45 F. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

Sculpture by Mrs. Helaine Blumenfeld, Town Center Park, 4th & I Streets, S.W. - Design and Site Plan.

12:00 G. Council on International Economic Policy

New Proposed Emblem.

LEGISLATION

Committee on House Administration, U.S. House of Representatives

1. H.R. 3685, 94th Congress, "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Law Enforcement Heroes Memorial within the District of Columbia."

2. H.R. 5327, 94th Congress, "To reserve a site on the Mall for the use of the Smithsonian Institution."

3. H.R. 5328, 94th Congress, "To authorize the Smithsonian Institution to plan museum support facilities."

4. H.R. 3710, 94th Congress, "To authorize the One Hundred and First Airborne Division Association to erect a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs."

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
BRIEFING SESSION
21 May, 1975

The briefing session convened at 9:15 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts Offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present:	*Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman* *Hon. Nicolas Arroyo* *Hon. Jane O. Dart* *Hon. Kevin Roche* *Hon. Edward Durell Stone, Jr.* *Hon. George A. Weymouth*
Staff Present:	*Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary* *Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary* *Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson* *Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.* *Mrs. Nancy N. Lusher* *Mr. David L. Miller*
National Capital Planning Commission Staff Present:	*Mr. Edward Hromanick*

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Bicentennial Medal Selection, 1 May, 1975. The Secretary reported that he had represented the Commission at a selection of sculptor's models for Bicentennial medal designs. All submitting sculptors had been members of the National Sculpture Society. All designs had been rejected as unsuitable. The selection committee suggested any further competitions for this type of work be open competitions, and not limited to a particular group, such as the National Sculpture Society. The Commission confirmed their support for the Secretary's actions.

B. White House Swimming Pool. The Chairman reported that he, the Secretary and Assistant Secretary had visited the White House a week earlier to see a scheme for a simple in-the-ground swimming pool with no cover, solar heat or dressing areas. The pool would be located in the same location as the previous design studied by the

Commission, just south of the Oval Office of the West Wing. Proper screen planting would make the pool invisible from the main part of the White House grounds. The Commission had no objection to this scheme, feeling that the simpler the pool area was, the better.

C. Opening and Closing of Public Alleys in Square 1190, K Street, 31st Street, and Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W., for Development of Inland Steel Project. The Assistant Secretary told that the City Council had asked for the Commission's comments on closing an existing alley crossing as part of the Georgetown Waterfront Inland Steel projects. The Commission had not approved any plan for the block in question. Alleys and streets, particularly in the city's historic districts, were scale giving devices as well as a part of the traditional city texture. The adjacent citizens and the Landmarks Committee had given the matter some thought and were objecting to the closing. The Commission agreed to send a letter to the City Council protesting closure without a suitable master plan or design reason for doing so. EXHIBIT A

II. PROJECT BRIEFINGS

A. Smithsonian Institution

National Air and Space Museum, proposed sculpture for North Entrance, resubmission. The Secretary presented a model and some photographs of a redesign suggested by the Commission at its April 1975 meeting. The suggestion had been to limit the height so that the "star burst" feature would be below the cornice of the museum. Later in the meeting the sculptor would present some studies and perspective views of the proposal in relation to the building. The Commission generally agreed that the proposal would be acceptable if it were controlled in height.

B. General Services Administration

Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building, 17th and G Streets, N.W., interior courtyard design. Mr. Carson presented a series of drawings showing a new design for this courtyard for the center of a block surrounded by F, G, and 17th Streets, N.W. On one side of the court would be the restored Winder Building, on the other would be the new Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building. The ground floor would have small shops and a quality restaurant with tables on the court plaza. This concept had been approved with the earlier schemes

for the building. Added to the scheme, however, was a large rectangular pool with wooden deck islands on it for the summer. It was to be a skating rink in the winter. Most services for the rink would be underground. Flanking the pool to the south and along the north wall of the Winder Building would be a gallery with glazed roof, open walls and year-round plant displays. This would have radiant heat in the winter making a pleasant place to sit near the pool for lunch, etc. Though the Commission felt that the design was simple and the concept unique, they hoped to see further details as developed. The concept of the building had been to create a lively courtyard full of pedestrian activity. Further discussion was held later at the meeting with project representatives.

C. D.C. Government, Department of General Services

1. Old Central Library, Mount Vernon Square, 8th and K Streets, N.W. Rennovation and new basement entrance. The Assistant Secretary and Mr. Jennings jointly presented a series of photographs and drawings showing plans to rennovate the Old Central City Library into a media center for the new Federal City College Campus proposed for north of the library. The original building had a main entrance facing south. The new use faced north (a former service and stack area).

Mr. Jennings told of successful efforts to have the best of the interior spaces restored to their original condition, with a minimal amount of duct and mechanical disruption. The Commission Staff and the Joint Committee on Landmarks Staff had spent considerable time working with the District Government on the project. The main problem was the plan and where to bring in a new entrance from the north. Mr. Jennings traced several possibilities, including one presented by the District Government entering the building from the basement level in a northwest corner. This would lead to a low head room lobby and only be indirectly connected to the original formal lobbies.

The Assistant Secretary told of efforts to solve the problem some months ago by building a bridge over the existing service entrance to the first or main floor level. The bridge was on axis with the centerline of the new campus and helped provide a visual terminus to the campus as well as giving a logical Beaux Arts entrance to a classical Beaux Arts building. This scheme had been approved by the Commission. He indicated that there would be representatives from the Joint Committee on Landmarks, the National Capital Planning Commission and the District Government at the meeting.

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21 May, 1975

The Secretary said that he seriously hoped that the Commission would not approve the proposed design, because it was far less in keeping with the adaptive use of the old building as well as being wholly out of the spirit of the period in which the library had been designed (1902). He stated that the north axial entrance to the remodelled building was one of the most important features of the building and the new campus. Further discussion was held later in the meeting.

2. Perry-Simmons Elementary School Replacement, 1st Street between H and I Streets, N.W. - design. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model for this new learning center type of school on a constricted site. He pointed out that the building would serve off-hour community functions as well as school functions and had underground parking to make a maximum amount of the site available for playground. The curving symmetrical building would be brick with a concrete mansard-type roof treatment. Two-floor learning center spaces had balcony connections making them far more interesting than the usual. These were topped by windowless cafeteria and gymnasium spaces, which seemed to the Commission a bit strange. Mr. Roche in particular felt that the exterior architectural character of the building would be too forbidding to small grammar school age children. The Assistant Secretary pointed out that there were deep areaways on either side of the building which would be a hazard from above and collect trash from below. There were also the entrances to the boys and girls toilets - providing a totally invisible and unsupervised condition. The Chairman felt that the design was far from the mark of good school design and Mrs. Dart and Mr. Weymouth questioned the need for quite such a defensible looking structure. Mr. Roche also objected to the formidable qualities of the design. Further discussion was held later at the meeting.

D. <u>D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development</u>

<u>Old Georgetown Act</u>

1. OG 75-159, 3242 M Street, N.W. - Demolition of Existing Two-story frame structure. The Assistant Secretary presented two photographs of a small frame two-story 18th Century building on one of Georgetown's main streets. Application had been made to demolish the building. The Georgetown Board had at first been inclined to deny the permit on the basis of the building's age and special small scale character. An inspection by the Commission of Fine Arts Staff with the Joint Committee on Landmarks Staff had been arranged after

the initial disapproval by the Board.

Mr. Jennings reported that the interior of the building had been substantially gutted time and again and that any 18th century fragments surviving were not visible, even in the room layout. The Staff's professional advice was that there was nothing on the interior of the building worth saving. The facade had been remodeled in the early 20th century and was not original. The scale and profile of the building were all that remained.

The Assistant Secretary told that the Georgetown Board's suggestion, based on staff recommendations, was that the architect be directed to study retention of the facade and profile of the building. The Commission was wholly in favor of this, saying that the building provided an important element of the streetscape.

2. OG 75-171, -172, 28th Street, N.W. - Erection of Two New Single Family Dwellings, resubmission. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and photographs of this corner property in Georgetown, an old house, carriage house and garage on a large garden lot. He told of previous efforts to demolish the outbuildings and overdevelop the site. The present scheme proposed retention of the outbuildings, connecting them together and creating a new residential unit out of them. Most of the garden and plantings on the Q Street side of the house would be retained. On the 28th Street side of the property two new row houses would be built in a traditional style. These would be kept fourteen feet away from the old house. The new houses had been cut down one floor since the original scheme gave them a compatible scale with the surroundings. The Georgetown Board had recommended approval of this scheme and the Commission concurred.

3. Appendix 1. The members read appendix 1 without objection.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 75-36, 4001 17th Street, N.W. - Alteration and Repair to Existing St. John the Baptist Church. The Secretary presented photographs and drawings showing a one-floor building which had been the start of an eventual scheme now presented for completion of a traditionally-styled Russian Orthodox Church. The Commission had reviewed the design in 1957 with a single objection; the drum for the onion dome be round instead of square. That suggestion had been taken for the final scheme. There were no objections, but further discussion was held later at the meeting.

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21 May, 1975

2. Appendix 2. The Commission examined Appendix 2 without objection.

E. Redevelopment Land Agency

1. Glasgow-Cannon Waterfront Facility, Southwest Waterfront - Resubmission. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and photographs of this combined seafood restaurant, raw bar, and fish store to go between the existing Hogates Restaurant and the proposed Tia Maria Restaurant. The proposed building would have the same brick walls and metal mansard roofs typical of the waterfront. The Commission had no objection to the proposal and conveyed their approval to the project representatives later in the meeting.

2. Flagship Parking Structure, Site P-1, Southwest Waterfront, resubmission. The Assistant Secretary told that the project sponsors had made efforts to accommodate the Commission's previous recommendations that parapet planting and screen planting be studied for the project. The RLA however had withdrawn the project for additional study.

F. National Park Service, National Capital Parks

Sculpture by Mrs. Helaine Blumenfeld, Town Center Park, 4th and I Streets, S.W., Design and Site Plan. The Secretary presented a site plan, photos, a model, and material samples for this large marble free-form vertical monolith sculpture to be located within the urban renewal area in a prominent location. The marble would be a black and white stone from Carrara, Italy. The Commission examined the model with the Chairman and Mr. Weymouth indicating that the design was dated and unsuited for such a prominent location in the National Capital. Further discussion was held later in the meeting with project sponsors.

G. Council on International Economic Policy

New proposed Emblem. The Secretary presented a circular red emblem with a central eagle surrounded by lettering giving the agency name. The Commission found the design very elegant and approved it.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
21 May, 1975

The meeting convened at 10:30 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts Offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present:	*Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman*
	Hon. Nicolas Arroyo
	Hon. Jane O. Dart
	Hon. Kevin Roche
	Hon. Edward Durell Stone, Jr.
	Hon. George A. Weymouth
Staff Present:	*Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary*
	Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
	Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
	Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
	Mrs. Nancy N. Lusher
	Mr. David L. Miller
National Capital Planning Commission Staff Present:	*Mr. Edward Hromanick*

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings were set at 25 June and 16 July, 1975.

B. Minutes of the April, 1975 meeting were approved.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. <u>Smithsonian Institution</u>

National Air and Space Museum, proposed sculpture for north entrance, resubmission. The project was represented by Messers Michael Collins and James Dean from the museum and the sculptor, Mr. Richard Lippold.

Mr. Lippold showed the Commission his model and several slides of the sculpture superimposed on the north facade of the museum building. He explained that the "star burst" element worked best just above the level of the glass line of the central building mass, so that it did not conflict with the truss structure visible within. The Chairman voiced the members' concern over the height, feeling that graphic

representations of the actual viewing perspective of such a sculpture would be very difficult to reproduce. The Commission suggested to Mr. Collins that a mock-up of the design on the site with balloons could give the best feel for the sculpture's size and relationship to the Mall and building. This recommendation was the Commission's action. EXHIBIT B

B. General Services Administration

Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building, 17th and G Streets, N.W., interior court redesign. The project was represented by Mr. Oram of the Home Loan Bank Board Staff, Mr. J. W. Kulig of the General Services Administration, Miss Mary Tracy of the Home Loan Bank Board Staff, Mr. Martin Stein (the architect), and Mr. Stan Fink (the landscape architect from Sasaki Associates). Mr. Oram and Mr. Fink told of the main features of the design and how the Home Loan Bank Board had approved the concept as part of the desired character for the courtyard. Several technical questions were asked about the glazing and heating techniques and the Commission was assured that they would see further design developments as specific features were decided upon. The Chairman indicated the Commission's approval of the lively concept of providing special services and public spaces within this semi-governmental complex. EXHIBIT C

C. D.C. Government, Department of General Services

1. Old Central Library, Mount Vernon Square, 8th and K Streets, N.W., rennovation. The project was represented by Messers Chuck Pavlick and Alberto Bastida of the District Government and the architects Messers Carl Ernst and Karl Landesz. Mrs. Nancy Taylor represented the staff of the Joint Committee on Landmarks, Mr. Francis D. Lethbridge represented the Committee as a member. Mr. Robert Gresham represented the National Capital Planning Commission Staff. The Federal City College was represented by Mr. Thomas.

The Chairman welcomed all and asked that Mr. Ernst explain the changes to the plan previously approved by the Commission. Mr. Ernst told of efforts to explore various alternatives to entering the building by means of a bridge from the north which had resulted in the present scheme to enter the building from the basement level on the northwest.

The Chairman expressed the Commission's concern for honest

expression of the building's new orientation and adaptive use. He told of the Members' hope that the new entrance could be treated in a Beaux Arts manner more in keeping with the building than the revised design showed. He further expressed the Commission's disapproval of the revised scheme.

Mr. Lethbridge explained the Joint Committee's feelings that the bridge did violate the original design of the building sufficiently to make them feel obligated to review alternatives prior to approving any scheme for the building. He stated that the Committee had reviewed no alternatives, but doubted that they would approve the one presented on this day to the Commission of Fine Arts.

The Chairman reiterated the Commission's decision to hold to their previous approval of a bridge concept of entering the building from the north. EXHIBIT D

2. Perry-Simmons Elementary School Replacement, 1st Street between H and I Streets, N.W., new design. The project was represented by Mr. Chuck Pavlick of the D.C. Government and the architect Mr. J. W. Lindsey.

The Chairman indicated the Commission's disapproval of the school design for the following reasons: the massiveness of the building was overpowering to small grammar school age children; the building had a fortresslike impression; the windowless cafeteria would be oppressive; the areaways would be a potential hazard and maintenance problem.

Mr. Pavlick asked that the Commission's disapproval of the design be made quite clear and then suggested that new studies be presented to the Commission at one of their next meetings. The Chairman welcomed this approach and offered any possible staff support. EXHIBIT E

D. <u>D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development</u>

1. <u>Old Georgetown Act</u>

a. OG 75-159, 3242 M Street, N.W., Demolition of existing two-story frame structure. The project had no representative present. The Chairman indicated support for the staff and Georgetown Board

position that the facade and scale of the structure were an important part of the historic district street scene.

b. OG 75-171, -172, 28th Street, N.W., Erection of two new single-family dwellings, review of Old Georgetown Board comments. There were no project representatives present. The Chairman indicated the Commission's approval of the Board's favorable response to the two new traditionally styled town houses. He lamented the fact that the open space within the historic district had to be developed, but recognized the sensitivity of the proposed solution.

c. Appendix 1, approved.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. SL 75-36, 4001 17th Street, N.W., alteration and repair to existing St. John the Baptist Church. The project was represented by Rev. D. Alexandrow, and Messers A. Gootan and W. Trey. The Chairman welcomed the project representatives who made a few remarks. The Chairman indicated that the Commission was approving the plans as preliminary and would look forward to seeing actual working drawings and material samples in the future. EXHIBIT F

b. Appendix 2, approved.

E. Redevelopment Land Agency

Glasgow-Cannon Waterfront Facility, Southwest Waterfront, design. The project was represented by Mr. Stan Sherman from the Redevelopment Land Agency and Mr. A. E. Karydas, the architect. The Chairman announced the Commission's approval of the plans for this new waterfront facility. EXHIBIT G

F. National Park Service

Sculpture by Mrs. Helaine Blumenfeld, Town Center Park, 4th and I Streets, S.W., design and site plan. The project was represented by Mrs. Blumenfeld, the sculptress, and Messers J. Ronsisvalle and R. Romanowski of the National Park Service. Mr. Sherman from the Redevelopment Land Agency was also present.

The Chairman indicated the Commission's disapproval of the

specific sculpture design. He stated that there was no objection to a large monumental piece at this point of the Southwest, but that the particular proposal would be inappropriate there.

EXHIBIT H

G. Council on International Economic Policy

New proposed emblem. There were no project representatives present. The Chairman indicated the Commission's approval of the design.

III. LEGISLATION

A. H.R. 3685, 94th Congress, "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Law Enforcement Heroes Memorial within the District of Columbia." The Secretary explained that this type of legislation had been reviewed by the Commission before, but that there was no specific concept, or location involved with the proposal. The Commission had no objection.

B. H.R. 5327, 94th Congress, "To reserve a site on the Mall for the use of the Smithsonian Institution." The Secretary told the Members that they had approved the objectives of a similar bill at their previous meeting. The site would be that last remaining site directly south of the National Gallery of Art Addition. The Commission confirmed their previous approval for this use.

C. H.R. 5328, 94th Congress, "To authorize the Smithsonian Institution to plan museum support facilities." The Secretary told the Members that they had also approved this concept previously and that it did not involve use of land within the District of Columbia. The Commission approved the concept.

D. H.R. 3710, 94th Congress, "To authorize the One Hundred and First Airborne Division Association to erect a memorial in the District of Columbia or its environs." The Secretary reviewed the Commission's previous action on this proposal, which was to disapprove it on the basis of their policy against memorializing individual

military units within the District - to avoid a serious problem with over-proliferation of these monuments. The Commission policy also advocated referring such problems to the National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee of the Department of the Interior. The concept of the legislation was disapproved.

IV. INSPECTION

At this point Mr. Arroyo and the Chairman excused themselves from the meeting (12:15p.m.).

Paving repairs at the Kennedy Center, east entrance. Mrs. Dart, Mr. Roche and Mr. Weymouth represented the Commission, the Secretary and Assistant Secretary represented the Staff. Mr. Stone was in attendance, but abstained from any participation. The group met with Messers Ben Howland, Elwood Wrench, John Parsons and several engineering consultants, who represented the National Parks Service, the caretaker agency for the Kennedy Center. The group met and examined the conditions of the roadway at the east entrance.

Serious cracking of the patterned concrete paving was observed with large pieces missing and a good number of non-matching patches. As buses and cars passed the group the surface could be felt moving - a condition causing most of the cracking, while freeze-thaw of the concrete was chipping off chunks of cement. Large underground spaces below were flooding because of waterproofing membrane damage and the structure was being shaken to the point of causing an unsafe condition. It was explained that there was a suit to determine whose responsibility the necessary repairs would be, but that the conditions were such that the Park Service was obligated to perform necessary repairs in the near future for the preservation of the building. The leading proposal had been to black-top the surface, obliterating the patterns which were intended as an integral part of the building's design.

Mr. Roche suggested that no work which would change the appearance of the design should be undertaken without consulting the design architect. It was unclear whether this would be legally permissible, but Mr. Howland agreed to check on it. The consensus of the Commission representatives was that the architect should be consulted, and that simple black-topping should be avoided at all costs.

21 May, 1975

One suggestion was that the patterns of light and dark paving be retained through any material change. A suggestion was made that a modular, easy to repair material such as Hasting's Block might make pattern retention possible with the advantage of easy repair ability (without patchwork appearance). Exhibit I.

The meeting adjourned at the Kennedy Center at 1:00 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

May 28, 1975

Dear Mike:

Just a note on our meeting of May 21, 1975, and Lippold's sculpture for the north entrance of the museum.

We are still not convinced the sculpture has to be 100 feet high, as none of Lippold's supportive material really depicted the situation as we believe it will be.

If there is some way in which we can actually see a demonstration of the proposed height, such as a balloon, we feel we would be in a much better position to make a final decision.

If this can be done in time for our next regular meeting on June 25, 1975, we will be happy to take a look at it.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Michael Collins
Director
National Air and Space Museum
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

Exhibit B.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ABROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

May 28, 1975

Dear Mr. Kulig:

This will confirm the Commission's approval, on May 21, 1975, of preliminary plans for the courtyard of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board building.

The Board's desire to create a lively atmosphere in the court year-round is an excellent idea. The combination of a skating rink in winter and a large decorative pool in the summer will contribute much to the character and life of the neighborhood. Our hope is that it proves to be infectious.

It can be if it is both well-designed and well-run. As far as the former goes, we have no doubt, at this stage, and our only request is that detailed working drawings and materials be presented to the Commission for final review of the design.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. J. Wayne Kulig
Project Manager
Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20405

Exhibit C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO — CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
JANE O. DART — EDWARD STONE, JR.
KEVIN ROCHE — GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

703 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

May 28, 1975

Dear Mr. Starobin:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 21, 1975, reviewed the revised design for the remodelling of the old Central Library, which is to become part of the Federal City College.

The proposed new entrance, which is at the basement level, and is to be located in the northwest corner of the two intersecting wings, does not meet the Commission's approval. Under any set of circumstances, the proposed location is a bad choice. Quite simply, such a corner entrance is completely foreign to the symmetrical and classic character of the building. However, there is the added burden that the building is to function as a terminal focal point to the formal 8th Street axis of the new campus of Federal City College. To leave blank the principal north elevation facing this axis and to hide the main entrance around the corner is completely unacceptable.

We urge a return to the bridge scheme which the Commission previously approved. It functions in every respect as an important new element in the axial scheme and it gives the added dimension of dignity and uplift with its ascending stairway to the first floor. This is entirely in the spirit of the old building. Not only is it respectful of the historic landmark, it gives it a degree of vitality that reflects the new role the building is playing in the Federal City College campus. This is adaptive use at its best.

We would appreciate the opportunity of reviewing this project further if any changes to the originally-approved scheme are contemplated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Sam D. Starobin
Director
D.C. Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Exhibit D.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO — CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
JANE O. DART — EDWARD STONE, JR.
KEVIN ROCHE — GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

May 28, 1975

Dear Mr. Starobin:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 21, 1975, reviewed a design for the new Perry-Simmons Elementary School.

If one accepts the idea that an elementary school should be a relatively inviting place, then the proposed design certainly is not satisfactory. Its need for extensive fencing close to the building, its narrow slit windows, and a heavy overhanging roof, as well as the scale and massing of the two wings, add up to a formidable and overbearing building.

There seem to be practical shortcomings as well. One can certainly question the deep wells flanking the two classroom wings, especially as a location for toilets. Access from the outside play area is remote, and the entrance's invisibility from the street grade, both would appear to be natural breeding grounds for trouble.

Service to the school is also poorly planned, in our opinion. It would appear the only access to the mechanical rooms is through the garage, which is questionable to say the least.

The third floor cafeteria is also without any natural light or ventilation and no access to any outside view. In making this observation, I should point out that the Commission is aware of the multi-purpose use planned for this room, including the need to darken the space for film presentations, etc. There are certainly ways this need can be met and still provide windows in the cafeteria.

Exhibit E.

We recommend a fresh start in the design, with a view toward humanizing the architecture, opening up the structure a little more, and making it a more inviting and friendly experience.

The Commission will be meeting again on June 25, 1975, and we will be happy to look at new studies at that time.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Sam D. Starobin
Director
D.C. Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO — CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
JANE O. DART — EDWARD STONE, JR.
KEVIN ROCHE — GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5534

May 28, 1975

Dear Mr. Mister:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 21, 1975, approved preliminary designs for the Glasgow-Cannon waterfront facility.

We request that complete working dravings and samples of exterior materials be submitted for final approval. It might also be helpful to have any signs that are being contemplated submitted at an early stage.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Melvin A. Mister
Executive Director
Redevelopment Land Agency
1325 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20576

Copy to: Stanley Sherman

Exhibit G.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

May 28, 1975

Dear Jack:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 21, 1975, reviewed the sculpture by Mrs. Helaine Blumenfeld that is proposed for one of the town center parks at 4th and I Streets, S.W.

After careful consideration of both a model and photographs of the sculpture, the members of the Commission found the work unacceptable.

We commend the concept of embellishing outside spaces with sculpture, and are most appreciative of the donors' generous offer on behalf of the city.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Director
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Exhibit H.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

May 28, 1975

Dear Dr. Howland:

The Commission was glad to have the opportunity to inspect the paving of the east plaza of the Kennedy Center at our meeting on May 21, 1975.

It is obvious something has to be done to correct the existing conditions, but just what is not clear. In any event, we suggest that the architect be consulted before any further action is taken since he does have a professional interest in the design of the plaza and as it is an integral part of the setting of the building.

While specific proposals for repaving the surface should remain open until the architect has been consulted, I must say that as far as black-topping the plaza is concerned, the Commission is opposed, at least until we are convinced that a precise geometric pattern matching the existing plaza cannot be duplicated.

We would appreciate being kept informed of the status of this project.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Dr. Benjamin C. Howland
National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Exhibit I.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

NICOLAS ARROYO
JANE O. DART
KEVIN ROCHE
CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH
EDWARD STONE, JR.
GEORGE WEYMOUTH

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-343-5324

May 28, 1975

Dear Mr. Everhardt:

It is our understanding that there are some changes being contemplated in the plans for the Mall that were approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and the Planning Commission. If this is so, we feel that these changes ought to be presented to the Commission at the earliest possible time for our consideration.

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for June 25, 1975, but in view of the pressing schedule due to the coming Bicentennial activities and the need for completion of the construction on the Mall, we would be happy to consider the matter at any convenient time.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Gary Everhardt
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

21 May, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 75-156	1639 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Jack Katyal	Terrace canopy and door awning. Terrace canopy is steel framed, canvas covered (resubmission refer to OG 75-152).

ACTION: Issue permit for single shed-type awning across front of building. Head of awning shall be above windows and door. 4/21/75

160	28th Street, N.W. J. Anthony Moran	Attach new garage to south face of existing residence, closing openings in south wall of basement where garage abuts (resubmission refer to OG 75-146).

ACTION: VOID -- see OG 75-170. 4/23/75

161	28th Street, N.W. J. Anthony Moran	Erect new brick dwelling (resubmission refer to OG 75-147).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Though Commission of Fine Arts recommends against subdivision of this property, this subject has been determined to be outside the purview of the Old Georgetown Act. Allowing additional space between existing house and proposed houses is highly recommended. Suggest restudy of facades, and reconsideration of new lot widths. 4/21/75

162	28th Street, N.W. J. Anthony Moran	Erect new brick dwelling (resubmission refer to OG 75-148).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. See OG 75-161. 4/21/75

164	3305 Dent Place, N.W. Outerbridge Horsey	Replace old fence, partially destroyed by falling tree. New fence is of similar construction.

ACTION: Issue permit. 4/23/75

165	1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W. Georgetown Inland	Add skylights, add doors and windows, and connecting link from foundry to new building (resubmission refer to OG 73-92).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Skylights not recommended - suggest retention of existing location or symmetrical location in north facade. No objection to glazing north archway, new vestibule, or new window in southeast second floor corner. 4/23/75

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

21 May, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 75-166	1576 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Texaco, Inc.	Cover existing masonry walls with brick veneer; cover existing roof with mansard roof; replace existing doors and reglaze some windows as shown (resubmission refer to OG 75-126).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. See previous action, OG 75-126. 4/23/75	
167	3108 M Street, N.W. (rear) Ed Garfinkle	Painted wood sign.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/23/75	
168	3200 Reservoir Road, N.W. Renate Christov-Bakargiev	Move existing garage 12' to south into space under patio now not in use and finish existing garage for usable space.
ACTION:	Issue permit for all work proposed, except new window above new garage door. If window is desired in that location, suggest small or round window. 4/23/75	
169	1645 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Bernard Goldstein	Erect pole sign behind public space.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/23/75	
173	1226 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Roy Rogers Restaurant	Three sets painted metal letters to replace existing Hot Shoppes, Jr. Signs -- total area is 9 1/2 square feet.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Recommend uniform classical Roman letter style. No objection to style as shown for "Family Restaurant". 5/15/75	
174	3006 Cambridge Place, N.W. Theodore Levine	To enclose with Pella Brand insulated windows and double 4" aluminum siding a two-floor existing rear porch.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. No objection to concept of porch enclosure, but recommend restudy. Suggest alignment of verticals with matched windows on both floors. Exterior expression of closet on second floor not recommended. First floor new side window not recommended -- suggest similar treatment on both floors. 5/15/75	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

21 May, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 75-175	3127 Dumbarton Street, N.W. David L. Seidel	Two light fixtures on front.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Carriage lamp not recommended for this house. Suggest less "fancy" porch light. 5/15/75	
176	3128 M Street, N.W. Mr. Broody	Change exterior show window into solid brick work with two arched windows and one arched entrance door.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Question accuracy of vertical dimensions on elevation drawing. Suggest better vertical alignment for facade without small pane windows. Perhaps four equal bays with columns or arches with sheet glass. Is there brick behind existing "Peoples" sign? 5/15/75	
177	1075 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Charles Graham	Erect sign 2' x 11', white background with green and black letters (resubmission refer to OG 75-133).
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/15/75	
178	2820 Dumbarton Street, N.W. Tyler and Elizabeth C. Abell	Replace existing wooden fence and gate with brick fence and wooden gate.
ACTION:	Issue permit. Recommend painting brick to match adjacent brick on house. 5/15/75	
179	2820 Dumbarton Street, N.W. Tyler and Elizabeth C. Abell	Replace wooden wall with brick, change windows, enclose porch, and small addition, repair and replace roof as necessary.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 5/15/75	
180	1218 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Third Edition	Install three 60-watt lights over sign.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Question size of lights and brackets as shown. They may not fit in space without obscuring sign. Information not sufficient to determine what relationship to length of sign would be. What is proposed spacing of lamps? What color? 5/15/75	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

21 May, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 75-181	1622 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. J. Audrey Havice Lopez & Oscar B. Lopez	Construct projecting sign from building, 3' x 3'6", wooden, brown ground with gold lettering, double-faced, to be hung 8' above sidewalk.
ACTION:	Issue permit for revised design. 5/15/75	
182	1537 28th Street, N.W. J. Anthony Moran	Attach new garage to south face of existing residence (resubmission refer to OG 75-170).
ACTION:	Issue permit for garage with brick (not wood) parapet. Material approved is Cushwa Brick, Calvert 115 (Full Range). 5/15/75	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

21 May, 1975

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
SL 75-34	2750 Jenifer Street, N.W. Covell Builders, Inc.	Erection of new dwelling.
ACTION:	Issue permit provided stucco panels on garage are eliminated. Submit brick sample. 4/23/75	
35	2130 P Street, N.W. Rebecca Cooper	Erect 7' x 18" sign.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/18/75	